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(Original Signature of Member)

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide a standard definition  
of therapeutic foster care services in Medicaid.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Ms. DELAURO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide  
a standard definition of therapeutic foster care services  
in Medicaid.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Family-Based Foster  
5       Care Services Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF THERAPEUTIC FOSTER CARE AS**  
2 **MEDICAL ASSISTANCE.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1905 of the Social Secu-  
4 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)—

6 (A) in paragraph (28), by striking “and”  
7 at the end;

8 (B) by redesignating paragraph (29) as  
9 paragraph (30); and

10 (C) by inserting after paragraph (28) the  
11 following new paragraph:

12 “(29) therapeutic foster care services described  
13 in subsection (ee); and”; and

14 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
15 section:

16 “(ee)(1) For purposes of subsection (a)(29), subject  
17 to subparagraph (C), therapeutic foster care services de-  
18 scribed in this subsection are services provided for children  
19 who have not attained age 21, and who, as a result of  
20 mental illness, other emotional or behavioral disorders,  
21 medically fragile conditions, or developmental disabilities,  
22 need the level of care provided in an institution (including  
23 a psychiatric residential treatment facility) or nursing fa-  
24 cility the cost of which may be reimbursed under the State  
25 plan but who can be cared for or maintained in a commu-

1 nity placement, through a qualified therapeutic foster care  
2 program described in paragraph (2).

3 “(2) A qualified therapeutic foster care program de-  
4 scribed in this paragraph is a program that—

5 “(A) not later than 3 years after the date of en-  
6 actment of this subsection, is licensed by the State  
7 and accredited by the Joint Commission on Accredi-  
8 tation of Healthcare Organizations, the Commission  
9 on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, the  
10 Council on Accreditation, or by another equivalent  
11 accreditation agency (or agencies) as the Secretary  
12 may recognize;

13 “(B) provides structured daily activities, includ-  
14 ing the development, improvement, monitoring, and  
15 reinforcing of age-appropriate social, communication  
16 and behavioral skills, trauma-informed and gender-  
17 responsive services, crisis intervention and crisis sup-  
18 port services, medication monitoring, counseling, and  
19 case management, and may furnish other intensive  
20 community services; and

21 “(C) provides biological parents, kinship care-  
22 givers, and foster care parents with specialized train-  
23 ing and consultation in the management of children  
24 with mental illness, trauma, other emotional or be-  
25 havioral disorders, medically fragile conditions, or

1 developmental disabilities, the impact of trauma on  
2 child and caregiver, and specific additional training  
3 on the needs of each child provided such services.

4 “(3) In making coverage determinations under para-  
5 graph (1), a State may employ medical necessity criteria  
6 that are similar to the medical necessity criteria applied  
7 to coverage determinations for other services and supports  
8 under this title.

9 “(4) The services described in this subsection do not  
10 include the training referred to in paragraph (2)(C).”.

11 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
12 subsection (a) shall apply to calendar quarters beginning  
13 on or after the date of enactment of this Act.